

Message Text

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44

ACTION AID-59

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ACDA-19 INT-08 COME-00 FDRE-00 HEW-08 CIAE-00 INR-10

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P R 271320Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY FORT LAMY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6914

INFO AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

USMISSION USUN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE FORT LAMY 1395

AFDROUGHT

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: PREPARATION FOR PIC HEADS OF STATE MEETING

REF: STATE 166398

1. SUMMARY: THE REGIONAL APPROACH IS ATTRACTIVE TO US BUT IS CONTRA-INDICATED HERE BY TWO REALITIES: (1) IT HAS PRODUCED AND WILL LIKELY PRODUCE NO SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS FOR CHAD AND (2) THE GOC WILL CONTINUE TO LOOK DIRECTLY TO USG FOR AID AND TO MEASURE OUR SINCERITY BY THE TANGIBLE OR VISIBLE RESULTS. MEANWHILE, THE REVIEW OF COMMITMENTS WITH AN EYE TO MODIFICATION, ADAPTATION OR EXPANSION IS TIMELY AND WELCOME IF WHAT IS CONTEMPLATED IS LARGELY A BILATERAL EXERCISE. END SUMMARY.

2. ATTITUDE OF GOC TOWARD PIC DISCUSSION REGIONAL AID PROPOSALS INVOLVING CHAD IS HIGHLY PREDICTABLE: IF THIS MEANS NEW FUNDS, PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS, GOC WILL BE RECEPTIVE. IF IT LEADS TO EXPANSION SCOPE AND QUALITY OF EXISTING BILATERAL PROPOSALS
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WITHOUT MAKING THEM SUBJECT TO PIC CONCURRENCE, GOC WILL

CERTAINLY APPROVE. HOWEVER, GOC CAN BE EXPECTED TO RESENT DISCUSSION OF, SAY, SATEGUI-DERESSIA RICE SCHEME IN ANY CONTEXT REQUIRING JUSTIFICATION TO PIC OR LEADING TO RE-EXAMINATION BY USG. IN SHORT, IF PIC CAN COME UP WITH NEW MULTILATERAL OR BILATERAL AID FOR CHAD WITHOUT CREATING FOR ITSELF ROLE OF EXTERANL DECISION-MAKER, GOC IS LIKELY TO SUPPORT. CONVERSELY IT CAN BE EXPECTED REPULSE MOVES TO BECOME EXCLUSIVE OR EVEN IMPORTANT COMMUNICATION CHANNEL BETWEEN RECIPIENTS AND DONORS.

3. BOTH IN IMMEDIATE DROUGHT SITUATION AND IN ORDINARY AID PROGRAMS US HAS BEEN AMONG MINOR AID DONORS TO CHAD. UNTIL RECENT VERY WELCOME DECISION TO GIVE 3000 TONS PL 480 SORGHUM TO CHAD FOR FIRST QUARTER FY 74, US DIRECT CONTRIBUTION FOR DROUGHT EMERGENCY WAS DOLS 170,000 FOR AIRLIFT. OFFICIAL REPORTS CREDITED WFP WITH THE 5000 TONS US SORGHUM AND INDEED WFP WAS REQUIRED TO PAY PORT-TO-FRONTIER SHIPPING AND MAKE CONTRI-BUTION FOR INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION. EXCEPT FOR AN ENGINEERING STUDY FOR A FORT LAMY SEWERAGE SYSTEM, A MODEST CONTRIBUTION TO LCBC REGIONAL LIVESTOCK, COMMUNICATIONS AND ROAD PROJECTS HAVING 95 PERCENT OF THEIR EXPENDITURES IN CAMEROON, AND SOME AFDB FUNDING FOR STUDY OF THE CHARI RIVER BRIDGE, WE HAVE NO AID PROJECTS IN CHAD. IN FACT SELF-HELP AND PEACE CORPS LOOM LARGE IN OUR AID PICTURE HERE.

4. CHAD'S CUSTOMARY TIES TO CENTRAL AFRICA AND CAMEROON AND ITS NEED FOR NIGERIA PLACE IT OUTSIDE ANY INSTITUTIONALIZED RELATION-SHIP WITH OTHER DROUGHT VICTIMS. NOT A SINGLE VIABLE ORGANIZATION EXISTS FOR COORDINATION OF REGIONAL AID INVOLVING CHAD, EXCEPT LCBC. THE PIC DOES NOT FOR THE MOMENT LOOK AS IF IT WILL FILL THIS ROLE EXCEPT BY ASSISTING IN IMMEDIATE DROUGHT-RELATED AID, ES-PECIALLY THROUGH COORDINATION OF THE SAHEL-DONRO DIALOGUE. THERE SEEMS LITTLE DOUBT THAT WHILE CHAD WILL BE RECEPTIVE TO REGIIONAL AID, GOC WILL CONSIDER PROSPECTS FOR TANGIBLE AID TO BE BLEAK AND WILL CONTINUE TO INSIST ON BILATERAL CONNECTIONS. CHADIAN DISAPPOINT-MENT WITH LEVEL US AID WILL NOT LIKELY BE ASSUAGED BY REVIVING TALK OF REGIONAL EMPHASIS. GOC WILL LOOK DIRECTLY TO US TO PROVE SINCERITY OF ITS DECLARED RESOLVE TO AID THIS ONE OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

5. REVIEW OF EXISTING COMMITMENTS IN LIGHT OF DROUGHT-IMPOSED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CHANGES IS CERTAINLY TIMELY. AS OF THIS MOMENT WE ARE STILL USING LAST YEAR'S VOCABULARY AND SET OF PRIORITIES IN DISCUSSING AID PROJECTS. WE NEED TO LOOK AGAIN AT PROPOSED MULTI-DONOR LIVESTOCK PROJECT, LAKE CHAD POLDER EXPANSION, RECENT REQUEST FOR AID IN RURAL HYDROLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT, AND GRAIN STORAGE NEEDS IN ORDER TO BRING OUR PRIORITIES INTO CLOSER HARMONY WITH CHAD'S PRESENT NEEDS.

6. WE ALSO FIND WELCOME AND TIMELY THE STATED INTENTION IN
PARA 4.C. REFTTEL TO IDENTIFY AND SUPPORT DROUGHT REHABILITATION
PROJECTS WHICH GROW OUT OF LOCAL INITIATIVES. POOLING OF IDEAS AND
EXPERIENCES AT OUAGADOUGOU COULD BE VERY USEFUL.
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